



2016 Annual Distress Listing

By statute, the NBRC is required to annually assess the level of economic and demographic distress among the counties in its service area.

Counties are designated as either

- Distressed,
- Transitional, or
- Attainment

Assessing distress is important as the resulting designations reflect whether or not the NBRC can provide grants within a county as well as what level of match is required of NBRC funded projects.

40 U.S.C., Subtitle V states that “distressed” counties are those that “have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration” and “are the most severely and persistently economic distressed and underdeveloped.” The NBRC is required to allocate 50% of its total appropriations to projects in counties falling within this designation. The percent of a project that can be funded by the NBRC is 80%.

“Transitional” counties “have recently suffered high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration” or “are economically distressed and underdeveloped.” The percent of a project that can be funded by the NBRC is 50%.

Finally, “attainment” counties are those that are neither “distressed” or “transitional.” The NBRC is not allowed to fund projects within an attainment county unless the project is within an “isolated area of distress.” Isolated areas of distress are “areas that have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration.”

Because poverty, unemployment, and outmigration are only parts of an economic situation, the NBRC has adopted categories above and beyond those directed by statute. These “Secondary Distress Categories” provides a more in-depth survey of the NBRC’s service area as well as greater opportunities to gauge the success of the NBRC’s programs over time.

Research provided by:
NH Center for Public Policy Studies, Concord, NH

For further information, please contact
Christine Frost, NBRC Program Director
cfrost@nbrc.gov or (202) 590-0807

DISTRESSED COUNTIES

These counties “have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration” *and* “are the most severely and persistently economic distressed and underdeveloped”

In Maine: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Franklin, Kennebec, Oxford, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset, Waldo, Washington

In New Hampshire: Coos, Sullivan

In Vermont: Caledonia, Essex, Orleans

In New York: Cayuga, Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Oswego, St. Lawrence

Percent of project matched by NBRC: 80%

TRANSITIONAL COUNTIES

These counties “have recently suffered high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration” *or* “are economically distressed and underdeveloped”

In Maine: Hancock

In New Hampshire: Carroll

In Vermont: Franklin, Lamoille

In New York: Seneca

Percent of project matched by NBRC: 50%

ATTAINMENT COUNTIES

These counties that are “not designated as distressed or transitional counties”

In New Hampshire: Grafton

In Vermont: Grand Isle

Percent of project matched by NBRC: 0%

ISOLATED AREAS OF DISTRESS

These municipalities in attainment counties “have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration.” See Table 2 for listing.

Percent of project matched by NBRC: 50%

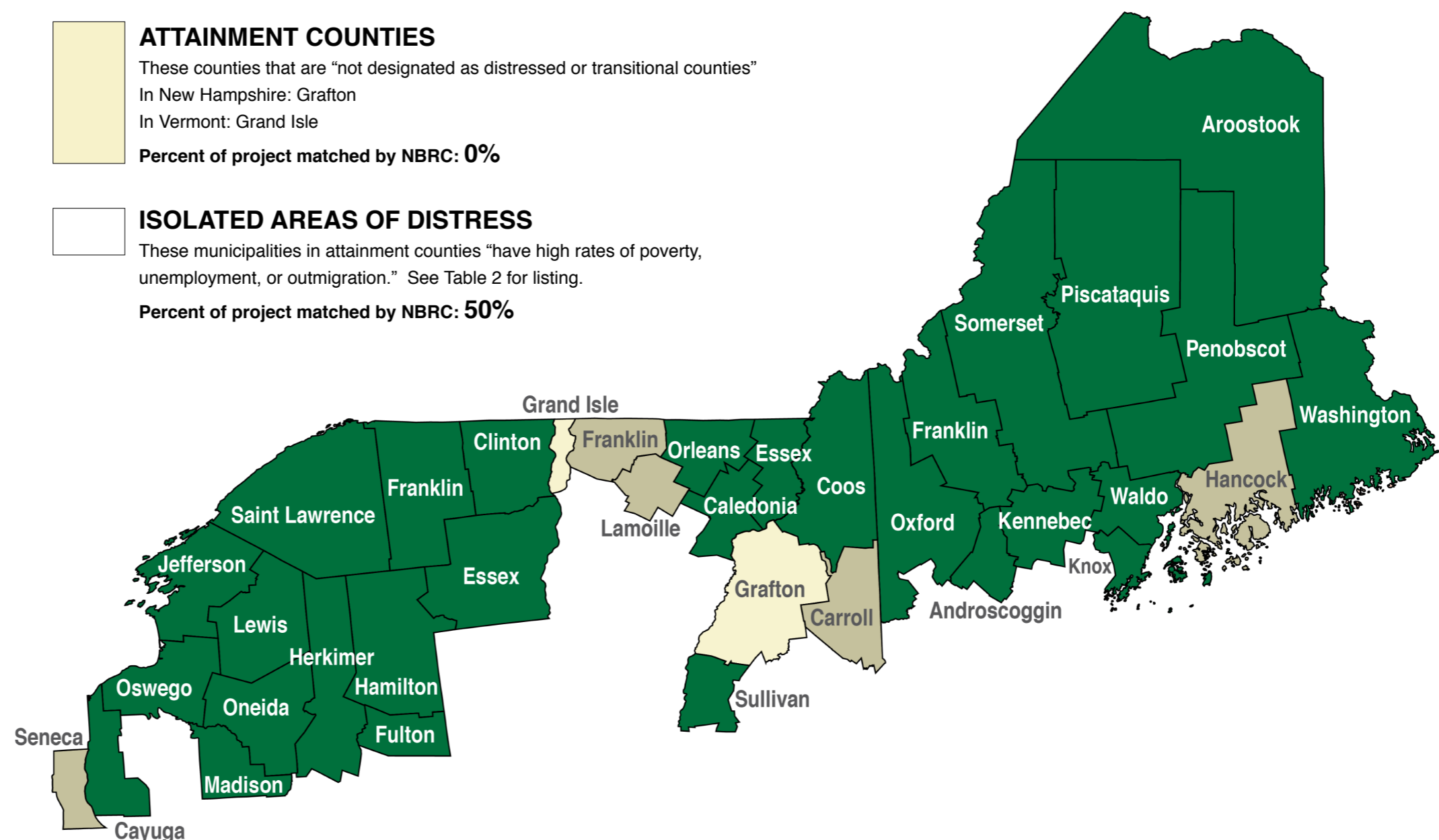


TABLE 1:
County Levels of
Distress

	Primary Distress Categories ⁽¹⁾			Secondary Distress Categories			Distressed County?	Transitional County?	Attainment County?
	Percent below poverty level ⁽²⁾	Unemploy. Rate ⁽²⁾	Percent Change in Population ⁽³⁾	Percent bachelor's degree or higher ⁽²⁾	Median household income iin 2012 ⁽²⁾	2010 Seasonal Home % ⁽⁴⁾			
United States	14.9	7.8	3.3%	28.5	\$53,046	3.5			
NBRC Region	14	7.7	-0.9%	22.2	\$46,265	20.7			
Criteria compared to is	US	US	< 0%	US	US	NBRC Region			
Androscoggin County, Maine	14.8	9.4	-0.2%	18.6	\$44,826	2.9	✓		
Aroostook County, Maine	15.9	7.4	-3.4%	16.5	\$37,434	13.7	✓		
Franklin County, Maine	17.1	8.6	-1.5%	22.7	\$39,416	33.1	✓		
Hancock County, Maine	12.7	8.2	0.5%	32.2	\$48,635	32.7		✓	
Kennebec County, Maine	12.5	8.4	-0.9%	24.2	\$47,424	10.1	✓		
Knox County, Maine	11.5	5.1	-0.2%	29.1	\$47,714	20.3	✓		
Oxford County, Maine	14.5	10.3	-1.0%	18.2	\$41,434	25.3	✓		
Penobscot County, Maine	17.1	8.2	-0.3%	23.4	\$43,382	8.4	✓		
Piscataquis County, Maine	17.7	9	-2.9%	16.2	\$36,606	41.7	✓		
Somerset County, Maine	18.2	9.2	-2.0%	14.8	\$38,141	21.4	✓		
Waldo County, Maine	15.5	8.6	0.7%	26.4	\$42,238	17.0	✓		
Washington County, Maine	19.8	11.2	-3.2%	19.2	\$36,486	27.5	✓		
Carroll County, New Hampshire	10.3	6.5	-0.9%	29.9	\$50,865	42.2		✓	
Coos County, New Hampshire	13.0	8.5	-4.2%	16.1	\$41,774	25.7	✓		
Grafton County, New Hampshire	11.0	5.9	0.6%	37.0	\$53,386	24.2			✓
Sullivan County, New Hampshire	10.2	6.4	-1.5%	25.7	\$53,821	12.8	✓		
Cayuga County, New York	12.2	8.3	-1.5%	18.6	\$50,950	7.9	✓		
Clinton County, New York	14.3	8.1	-0.6%	22.1	\$50,522	6.2	✓		
Essex County, New York	12.4	8.2	-1.8%	24.5	\$47,400	29.9	✓		
Franklin County, New York	17.6	9.8	-0.6%	17.9	\$45,702	17.5	✓		
Fulton County, New York	16.5	10.3	-2.6%	14.5	\$45,333	13.7	✓		
Hamilton County, New York	8.8	6.5	-2.5%	25.1	\$51,595	71.1	✓		
Herkimer County, New York	14.6	9.4	-1.2%	20.2	\$44,288	14.1	✓		
Jefferson County, New York	15.1	11.6	2.5%	20.1	\$46,549	18.7	✓		
Lewis County, New York	13.5	8.1	0.5%	13.1	\$45,187	25.2	✓		
Madison County, New York	10.8	5.8	-1.5%	24.4	\$52,293	6.8	✓		
Oneida County, New York	15.6	7.8	-0.9%	22.4	\$49,148	3.3	✓		
Oswego County, New York	16.4	10.7	-1.0%	16.0	\$47,288	7.0	✓		
St. Lawrence County, New York	18.5	11.2	-0.5%	20.1	\$43,745	14.5	✓		
Seneca County, New York	11.9	6.7	-1.0%	18.6	\$49,155	9.9		✓	
Caledonia County, Vermont	13.8	8.3	-0.8%	26.9	\$44,435	14.9	✓		
Essex County, Vermont	15.1	11.4	-2.9%	15.5	\$37,214	38.4	✓		
Franklin County, Vermont	10.2	6.4	1.9%	22.3	\$55,051	9.4		✓	
Grand Isle County, Vermont	7.6	7.7	0.3%	29.6	\$60,433	36.4			✓
Lamoille County, Vermont	12.5	4.5	2.5%	35.3	\$54,064	17.3		✓	
Orleans County, Vermont	15.6	7.2	-0.5%	20.0	\$41,618	24.4	✓		
36	15	12	28	30	31	21	29	5	2

(1) These categories are required under 40 U.S.C., Subtitle V
(2) Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (5 Year Average, 2009-2013)
(3) Source: USDA Economic Research Service, Percent Change in Population (County Level Data Sets, 2010-2014)
(4) Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census

TABLE 2:
Isolated Areas of
Distress

	Primary Distress Categories ⁽¹⁾			Distressed Municipality?
	Percent below poverty level ⁽²⁾	Unemploy. Rate ⁽²⁾	Percent Change in Population ⁽²⁾	
United States	14.9	7.8	3.3%	
NBRC Region	14	7.7	0.7%	
Criteria compared to is	US	US	< 0%	
Alexandria, Grafton Co, NH	7	8.5	1.0%	✓
Ashland, Grafton Co, NH	18.3	6.1	-0.05%	✓
Bath, Grafton Co, NH	10.1	13	1.3%	✓
Benton, Grafton Co, NH	12	16.4	2.2%	✓
Bethlehem, Grafton Co, NH	14.3	5.4	1.3%	
Bridgewater, Grafton Co, NH	4.2	1.8	0.6%	
Bristol, Grafton Co, NH	11.9	3	0.5%	
Campton, Grafton Co, NH	4.3	5.8	-0.2%	✓
Canaan, Grafton Co, NH	11.2	9.2	0.1%	✓
Dorchester, Grafton Co, NH	8	13.4	0.3%	✓
Easton, Grafton Co, NH	3.8	9.6	4.2%	✓
Ellsworth, Grafton Co, NH	5.2	6.1	0.0%	
Enfield, Grafton Co, NH	3.1	2.3	-0.1%	✓
Franconia, Grafton Co, NH	3	4.3	1.6%	
Grafton, Grafton Co, NH	14.3	4.5	0.6%	
Groton , Grafton Co, NH	13.2	12.1	0.7%	✓
Hanover, Grafton Co, NH	11.3	3.6	1.0%	
Haverhill, Grafton Co, NH	17.8	10.6	-0.9%	✓
Hebron, Grafton Co, NH	21.4	5.5	2.6%	✓
Holderness, Grafton Co, NH	5.3	2.3	-0.05%	✓
Landaff , Grafton Co, NH	3.4	4.3	1.0%	
Lebanon, Grafton Co, NH	12	4.5	3.2%	
Lincoln, Grafton Co, NH	24.1	15.6	0.1%	✓
Lisbon, Grafton Co, NH	14	9	-0.5%	✓
Littleton, Grafton Co, NH	8.8	6.5	0.5%	
Lyman , Grafton Co, NH	9	6.5	0.6%	
Lyme, Grafton Co, NH	3.3	4.6	-1.1%	✓
Monroe, Grafton Co, NH	6.3	5.5	-0.5%	✓
Orange , Grafton Co, NH	7.5	1.4	0.3%	
Orford, Grafton Co, NH	5.9	2.4	0.8%	
Piermont, Grafton Co, NH	6	3.1	-1.0%	✓
Plymouth, Grafton Co, NH	22.5	7.4	-2.7%	✓
Rumney, Grafton Co, NH	19.9	6.8	0.9%	✓
Sugar Hil, Grafton Co, NH	8.8	5.3	1.6%	
Thornton, Grafton Co, NH	5.6	5.1	0.7%	
Warren, Grafton Co, NH	15.6	11.6	-0.9%	✓
Waterville Valley , Grafton Co, NH	4.2	0.9	0.4%	
Wentworth, Grafton Co, NH	15.1	14.7	1.1%	✓
Woodstock, Grafton Co, NH	3.5	8.3	0.9%	✓
Alburgh, Grand Isle Co, VT	7.5	14	0.5%	✓
Grand Isle, Grand Isle Co, VT	8.2	4.3	0.7%	
Isle La Motte, Grand Isle Co, VT	8.2	15.2	0.4%	✓
North Hero, Grand Isle Co, VT	3.8	4.6	0.2%	
South Hero, Grand Isle Co, VT	5.5	5.9	-0.2%	✓
44	8	29	12	26